I have ſometimes thought, that wandering with ſedate ſtep in ſome lonely receſs, a modeſt dame of antiquity muſt have felt a glow of conſcious dignity when, after contemplating the ſoft ſhadowy landſcape, ſhe has invited with placid fervour the mild reflection of her ſiſters beams to turn to her chaſte boſom.

A Chriſtian has ſtill nobler motives to incite her to preſerve her chaſtity and acquire modeſty, for her body has been called the Temple of the living God; of that God who requires more than modeſty of mein. His eye ſearcheth the heart; and let her remember, that if ſhe hopeth to find favour in the ſight of purity itſelf, her chaſtity muſt be founded on modeſty and not on worldly prudence; or verily a good reputation will be her only reward; for that awful intercourſe, that ſacred communication, which virtue eſtabliſhes between man and his Maker, muſt give riſe to the wiſh of being pure as he is pure!

After the foregoing remarks, it is almoſt ſuperfluous to add, that I conſider all thoſe feminine airs of maturity, which ſucceed baſhfulneſs, to which truth is ſacrificed, to ſecure the heart of a huſband, or rather to force him to be ſtill a lover when nature would,

would, had ſhe not been interrupted in her operations, have made love give place to friendſhip, as immodeſt. The tenderneſs which a man will feel for the mother of his children is an excellent ſubſtitute for the ardour of unſatisfied paſſion; but to prolong that ardour it is indelicate, not to ſay immodeſt, for women to feign an unnatural coldneſs of conſtitution. Women as well as men ought to have the common appetites and paſſions of their nature, they are only brutal when unchecked by reaſon: but the obligation to check them is the duty of mankind, not a ſexual duty. Nature, in theſe reſpects, may ſafely be left to herſelf; let women only acquire knowledge and humanity, and love will teach them modeſty *. There is no need of falſehoods, diſguſting as futile, for ſtudied rules of behaviour only impoſe on ſhallow obſervers; a man of ſenſe ſoon ſees through, and deſpiſes the affectation.

* The behaviour of many newly married women has often diſguſted me. They ſeem anxious never to let their huſbands forget the privilege of marriage; and to find no pleaſure in his ſociety unleſs he is acting the lover. Short, indeed, muſt be the reign of love, when the flame is thus conſtantly blown up, without its receiving any ſolid fewel!